

by the employee's former agency, concerning a specific position having a representative rate at least as high, and with the same type of work schedule, as that of the position from which the person was or will be separated.

(iv) Separates for some other reason (such as retirement, resignation, etc.) before the date the RIF separation would take effect. An employee who retires on or after the date of separation by RIF does not lose RPL eligibility.

(v) Declines an interview or fails to appear for a scheduled interview only if notified in advance of this requirement and the subsequent consequences.

(vi) In the case of an individual enrolled on an RPL for Alaska or overseas, leaves the area covered by that RPL or becomes disqualified for overseas employment because of previous service or residence.

(3) When an agency removes an individual from the RPL because of failure to reply to a specific permanent job offer or an inquiry of availability for a specific permanent vacancy, the agency must have evidence to show that a written offer or inquiry was made (e.g., a Postal Service "return receipt signed by addressee only"). The written offer or inquiry to the individual must clearly state that failure to respond will result in loss of RPL consideration for that grade or higher grades, if eligible.

(e) Declination of nonpermanent employment has no effect on RPL eligibility or continuation of RPL consideration.

(f) Consideration for all jobs (whether permanent or nonpermanent) is suspended for any individual who cannot be reached by the agency. Submission of an updated application can reinstate consideration, but the period of eligibility is not extended beyond the original time set in paragraph (c) of this section.

(g) Eligibles who had agreed to transfer with their function but were separated by RIF from the gaining competitive area are registered on the RPL of the gaining competitive area.

[53 FR 45067, Nov. 8, 1988, as amended at 57 FR 21890, May 26, 1992; 60 FR 3059, Jan. 13, 1995]

**§ 330.204 Eligibility due to compensable injury.**

(a) A competitive service employee in tenure group I or II who is separated (or who accepts a lower graded position in lieu of separation) because of a compensable injury of disability (as defined in part 353 of this chapter) who has fully recovered more than 1 year after compensation began is entitled to be placed on the RPL provided the individual applies within the timeframes addressed in § 330.202. Part 353 of this chapter contains information on eligibility.

(b) A former tenure group I employee is eligible for the RPL for 2 years, and a former tenure group II employee is eligible for 1 year, from the date the individual is entered on the RPL. An individual is taken off the RPL before the period of eligibility expires when the individual:

(1) Requests removal;

(2) Receives a career, career-conditional, or excepted appointment without time limit in any agency; or

(3) Declines an offer or fails to respond to an inquiry of availability about a specific position that is the same as or equivalent to the position from which separated.

(c) A former employee must request reemployment consideration with the time limits set in § 330.202.

[53 FR 45067, Nov. 8, 1988, as amended at 60 FR 3059, Jan. 13, 1995]

**§ 330.205 Employment restrictions.**

(a) The restrictions in paragraph (b) of this section apply to the filling of all competitive service vacancies, regardless of whether an agency plans to make a temporary, term, or permanent appointment. This means an agency must consider RPL registrants for nonpermanent as well as permanent positions when they have indicated such interest on their RPL application.

(b) When a qualified individual is available on an agency's RPL, the agency may not make a final commitment to an individual not on the RPL to fill a permanent or temporary competitive service position by:

(1) A new appointment, unless the individual appointed is a qualified 10-point preference eligible; or

(2) Transfer or reemployment, unless the individual appointed is a preference eligible, is exercising restoration rights under part 353 of this chapter based on return from military service or recovery from a compensable injury or disability within 1 year, or is exercising other statutory or regulatory reemployment rights.

(c) Paragraph (b) of this section does not apply to actions involving employees on an agency's rolls, as authorized in paragraphs (c) (1), (2), and (3) of this section, or in filling a specific position:

(1) When all qualified individuals on the RPL decline an offer of a specific position or fail to respond to an official agency inquiry about their availability for it; or

(2) By a current, qualified employee of the agency through:

(i) Detail or position change (promotion, demotion, reassignment); or

(ii) Conversion to competitive appointment of employees currently serving under appointments that carry a noncompetitive conversion eligibility (e.g., Veterans Readjustment Appointee, 30 percent disabled veterans, disabled employees under Schedule A appointment, Presidential Management Interns, cooperative education students under Schedule B appointment, and TAPERS); or

(iii) Reappointment without a break in service to the same position currently held by an employee serving under a temporary appointment of 1 year or less (only to another temporary appointment not to exceed 1 year or less and not to a permanent appointment); or

(iv) Extension of an employee's temporary appointment up to the maximum permitted by the appointment authority or as authorized by OPM.

(3) By a 30-day special needs appointment or 700 hour temporary appointment of a severely disabled or mentally restored individual, when the agency's staffing policies provide for these exceptions.

(d) An agency must clear the RPL at the grade level at which it fills a position (regardless of the full performance level). Similarly, if an agency advertises a position at multiple grade levels, it must clear the RPL only at the

grade level at which the position is ultimately filled.

(e) Once an agency has cleared its RPL and made a final employment commitment to an individual, the later registration of another employee on the RPL does not prevent the fulfillment of the original commitment, regardless of when the individual actually enters on duty.

(f) An agency may make an exception to this section and appoint an individual not on the RPL as authorized by § 330.207(d).

(g) When submitting a request for referral of eligibles, an agency is required to indicate that no qualified RPL registrant is available for the vacancy and therefore the agency may make a new appointment. Similarly, an agency must clear its RPL before making appointments under a direct-hire authority, which includes the Outstanding Scholar provision, or delegated examining authority.

[60 FR 3059, Jan. 13, 1995]

#### § 330.206 Job consideration.

(a)(1) An eligible employee under § 330.203 is entitled to consideration for positions in the commuting area for which qualified and available that are at no higher grade (or equivalent), have no greater promotion potential than the position from which the employee was or will be separated, and have the same type of work schedule. In addition, an employee is entitled to consideration for any higher grade previously held on a nontemporary basis in the competitive service from which the employee was demoted under part 351 of this chapter.

(2) An employee is considered for positions having the same type of work schedule as the position from which separated except that the agency, at its discretion, may adopt provisions permitting employees to request consideration for other work schedules in addition to that formerly held.

(3) An eligible employee may be entered on the RPL only for the commuting area in which separated and may not apply for the RPL in any other location, except as provided in paragraph (a)(4) of this section.

(4) Each eligible employee in a position in Alaska or overseas is entitled